

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

Sitting as the Law Court

Court of Last Resort

7 Justices sit en banc

- Appeals from all final civil, family, and criminal judgments and certain interlocutory orders.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in cases of criminal extradition, post conviction review, criminal sentences of one year or more, Worker's Compensation Board, certified federal questions.
- Single Justice decisions in bar discipline cases.

DISTRICT COURT

30 Locations

36 Judges &

8 Family law Magistrates

- Civil (including small claims, family, protection from abuse/harassment, forcible entry and detainer, traffic infractions, psychiatric commitment)
- Criminal misdemeanors, OUI, some felonies
- Juvenile (appeal to Superior Court)
(no jury trials)

SUPERIOR COURT

17 Locations

17 Justices

- All jury trials (civil and criminal)
- Appeals from municipal and state administrative decisions, forcible entry and detainer, small claims, certain bail and probation decisions, criminal indigency determinations, and orders of commitment.

(APPEALS)

COUNTY PROBATE COURT

16 Part-time elected Judges

- Adoption, potentially including termination of parental rights
 - Probate of estates, including construction of wills and determination of heirs or successors
 - Guardianship and conservatorship
 - Trusts
- (no jury trials)